Construction of railway lines in the country

894. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive long term plan has been drawn up for the construction of railway lines in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) what are the areas which have been selected for laying of new rail lines during 1987; and

(c) what are the areas proposed to be considered for laying of railway lines in subsequent years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of on-going new line projects during 1986-87 are available in Pink Book and Explanatory Memorandum of the Railway Budget 1986-87. These new lines will continue to be progressed in the subsequent years of the VIIth Plan according to availability of resources. No other new line projects are under consideration at present.

Rare idols engraved in Qutab Minar

895. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while carrying out certain repairs to the Qutab Minar at Delhi, some rare idols have been found engraved in its walls;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what vigil is being exercised while carrying out repairs to it keeping in view possibility of more such idols coming to light; and

(d) whether these idols have been restored to any religious bodies, if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) While carrying out structural repairs to Qutab Minar two partially damaged sculptures were found from the inner core of masonry.

(b) The male figure is four armed and depicted standing in "Tribhanga" posture holding a pot in his lower left hand, while the lower right hand rests on right knee. The objects held in upper right and left hands are not distinct. The figure wears a garland, a sacred thread and a necklace. The female figure is also depicted standing in "Tribhanga" posture and wearing ear-ornaments, necklace and armlets.

(c) All possible care is being taken by proper supervision during the course of repairs to ensure that sculptures, if any, found in the core of masonry are retrieved carefully and preserved.

(d) No, Sir; question does not arise.

News item captioned 'Railways to revive millionaire customers plan"

896. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 2nd September, 1986 under the caption "Railways to revive millionaire customer's plan", and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Zonal Railways give certain facilities to those customers who give regular and sizeable traffic to the Railways. Such parties can make a lumpsum deposit towards wagon registration fee and regular supply of wagons to them is arranged, as far as practicable.

Setting up of a university in Tripura

897. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a University in Tripura during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The Central Government has no such proposal under consideration. However, the Government of Tripura is considering a proposal to establish a University in that State.

New facilities for training Hockey players

898. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the performance of Indian Hockey team in International games at Seoul and London, Government propose to assist the Indian Hockey Federation to introduce new facilities in training the hockey players and also for grooming new players; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Government have been providing financial and technical facilities for the coaching of Indian Hockey teams selected by the Indian Hockey Federation, prior to its participation in International Tournaments. The facilities provided include meeting expenditure on the running of coaching camps, provision of the diet money during the coaching camps, making available for the camps trained coaches wherever required by the federation and holding of coaching camps at the senior, junior, and sub-junior levels. Exposure to international competition is also encouraged by meeeting air-passage cost both ways in respect of the players of the national teams going for participation in international tournaments abroad. Similarly, assistance is also made available for holding of international tournaments in the country While the Government will continue to do so in future also, it has also introduced a new scheme of laying synthetic tracks and artificial surfaces in various parts of the country.

Review of projects for child welfare

899. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review of the ongoing projects for child welfare in the country;

(b) if so, what are the results thereof;

(c) what is the quantum of Central assistance given to States for implementation of the scheme during the current year i.e. 1986-87; and

(d) whether the quantum of central assistance is likely to be increased in the next year?